

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 T-03

OMB-01 RSR-01 /079 W

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R 160722 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0548

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1528

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AS, TH, US

SUBJ: LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE ON WHITLAM NEWSWEEK

INTERVIEW

1. WITH EXCEPTION FEW STORIES ESSENTIALLY REPEATING
STATEMENTS MADE IN BANGKOK BY THAI OFFICIALS ABOUT
WHITLAM' S INTERVIEW WITH NEWSWEEK, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE
PRESS COVERAGE

OF SUBJECT. EVEN WHITLAM' S RESPONSE
DURING QUESTION TIME ON THI SUBJECT WAS NOT PICKED
UP BY MAJOR NEWSPAPERS.

2. PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION POSED BY OPPOSITION LEADER
SNEDDEN MARCH 13 ASKED WHITLAM TO EXPLAIN WHY HE HAD MADE
STATEMENT ABOUT U. S. FORCES STATIONED IN THAILAND
WHICH HAD EMBARRASSED AUSTRALIANS AND ALIENATED

THAIS. WHITLAM RESPONDED THAI GOVERNMENT HAS
MADE NEITHER ORAL NOR WRITTEN REPRESENTATION
ABOUT INTERVIEW. HE ACKNOWLEDGED IT WAS MATTER FOR
U. S. AND THAILAND TO DETERMINE WHAT ARMED FORCES SHOULD
BE IN THAILAND. WHITLAM SAID, HOWEVER, THAT AUSTRALIA

IS INTERESTED IN STABILITY OF AREA AND EXPRESSED BELIF

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THAT STABILITY OF AREA WOULD BE PROMOTED AS FOREIGN
TROOPS ARE WITHDRAWN. LHITLAM THEN REFERRED TO
AUSTRALIA' S QTE CONTRIBUTION END QTE IN THIS REGARD
BY WITHDRAWAL OF AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE UNITS FROM

THAILAND IN JULY 1968. HE CONCLUDED THAT THAILAND
WILL CONTINUE POLICIES WHICH FOR 100 YEARS HAVE
INSURED HER IDENTITY AND INDEPENDENCE AND HAVE
REMAINED UNBROKEN. (COPIES OF WHITLAM' S STATEMENT
BEING SENT TO ADDRESSEES.)
RICE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 16 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CANBER01528
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730334/aaaaibzw.tel
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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To: BANGKOK
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